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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : National Phase Entry of PCT/EP03/012099
Applicant : SCHMID
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Docket No. : 2923-709
Customer No. : 6449
Confirmation No. :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following amendments before calculation of the filing fee and examination of the merits.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.